SOTOYAMA et al Appl. No. 10/018,793 May 13, 2004

## **REMARKS/ARGUMENTS**

Further consideration of this application is requested.

In the Official Action claims 8 and 12 are allowed while claims 7 and 11 are rejected.

Claims 7 and 11 have been canceled thereby leaving only allowed claims 8 and 12 in the application. A Notice of Allowance is awaited.

Respectfully submitted,

NIXON & VANDERHYE P.C.

By:

Arthur R. Crawford Reg. No. 25,327

ARC:eaw 1100 North Glebe Road, 8th Floor Arlington, VA 22201-4714

Telephone: (703) 816-4000 Facsimile: (703) 816-4100